



*INTERGEO 2011*

# **Geodätische Messungen mit TerraSAR-X - Stand der Genauigkeit**

**Michael Eineder, N. Yague-Martinez, C. Minet, X. Cong, B. Schättler**

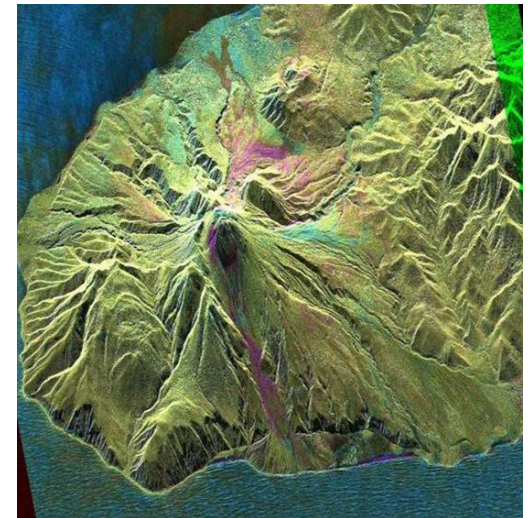
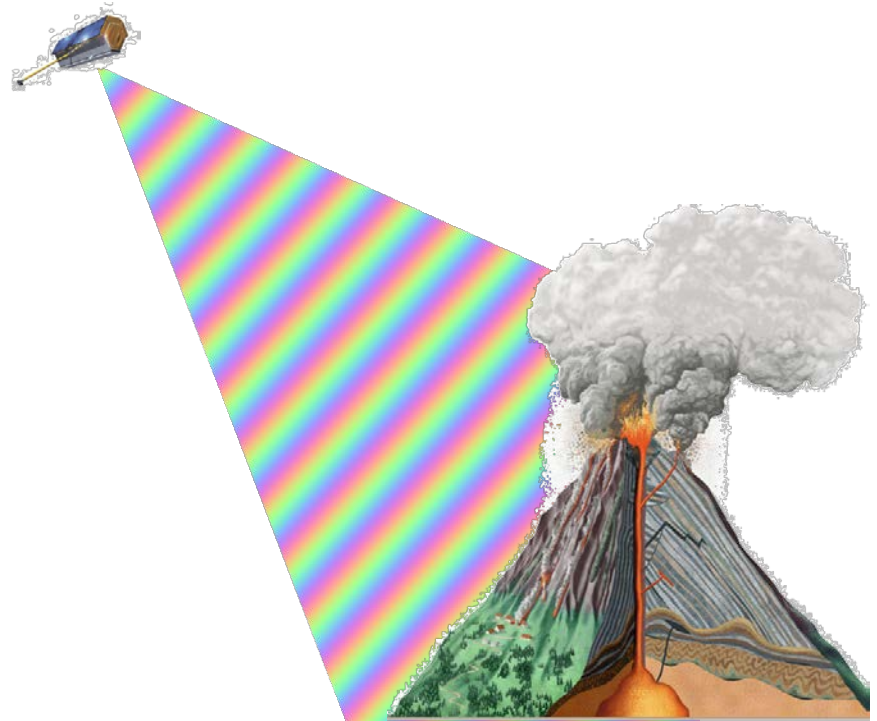
**DLR Institut für Methodik der Fernerkundung**



Deutsches Zentrum  
für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.

# Outline

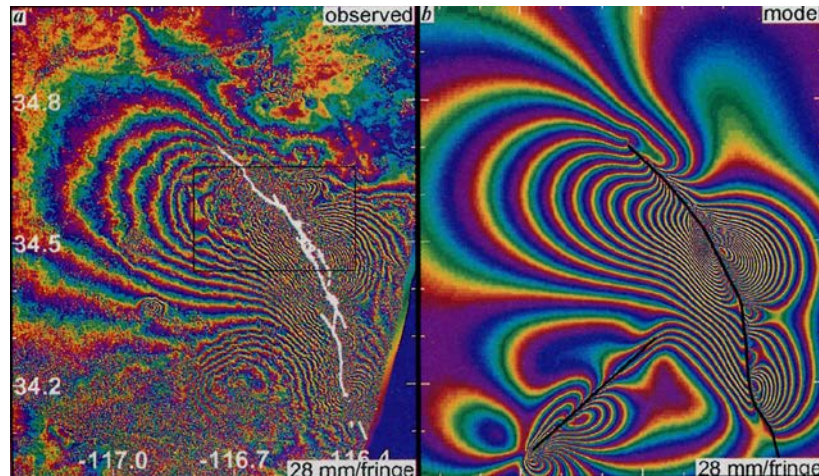
- Goal: Capture earth surface motion globally from space with high accuracy and resolution
- Differences between InSAR and high resolution image correlation techniques (HRIC)
- Error sources & recent correction techniques turning space borne imaging Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) systems into geodetic measurement devices
- Examples





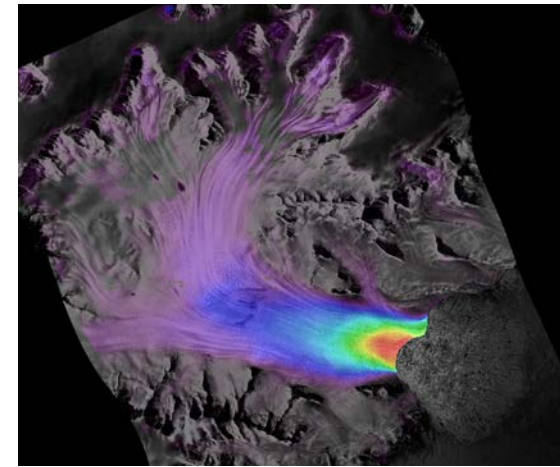
# InSAR Versus Image Correlation

## InSAR



Massonnet et al., *The displacement field of the Landers earthquake mapped by radar interferometry*, Nature, V.364, p. 138-142, 1993

## Image Correlation



Eineder, Wael Abdel Jaber, *Glacier Flow and Topography Measurements with TerraSAR-X and TanDEM-X*, IGARSS 2011

### ➤ Prinziple:

- Coherent pixel phase (no contrast needed)

### ➤ Properties

- high spatial resolution ( $\approx$  m)
- high accuracy ( $\approx \lambda/10$ )
- 1D, ambiguous, relative

### ➤ Prinziple:

- Inter pixel contrast (needs window/edge)

### ➤ Properties

- lower spatial resolution ( $\approx$  m x 10)
- Lower accuracy (cm)
- 2D, absolute

# Error Source: **Satellite Orbits**

**Characteristics:** Large scale (smooth) offsets < 5 centimeters

## Consequences:

### ➤ InSAR:

- Phase offsets (invisible)
- Phase ramps → motion error gradients
- Overall location error (small)

### ➤ HRIC:

- Offsets
- Ramps (comparatively small)
- Overall location error (small)

## Compensation:

### ➤ InSAR:

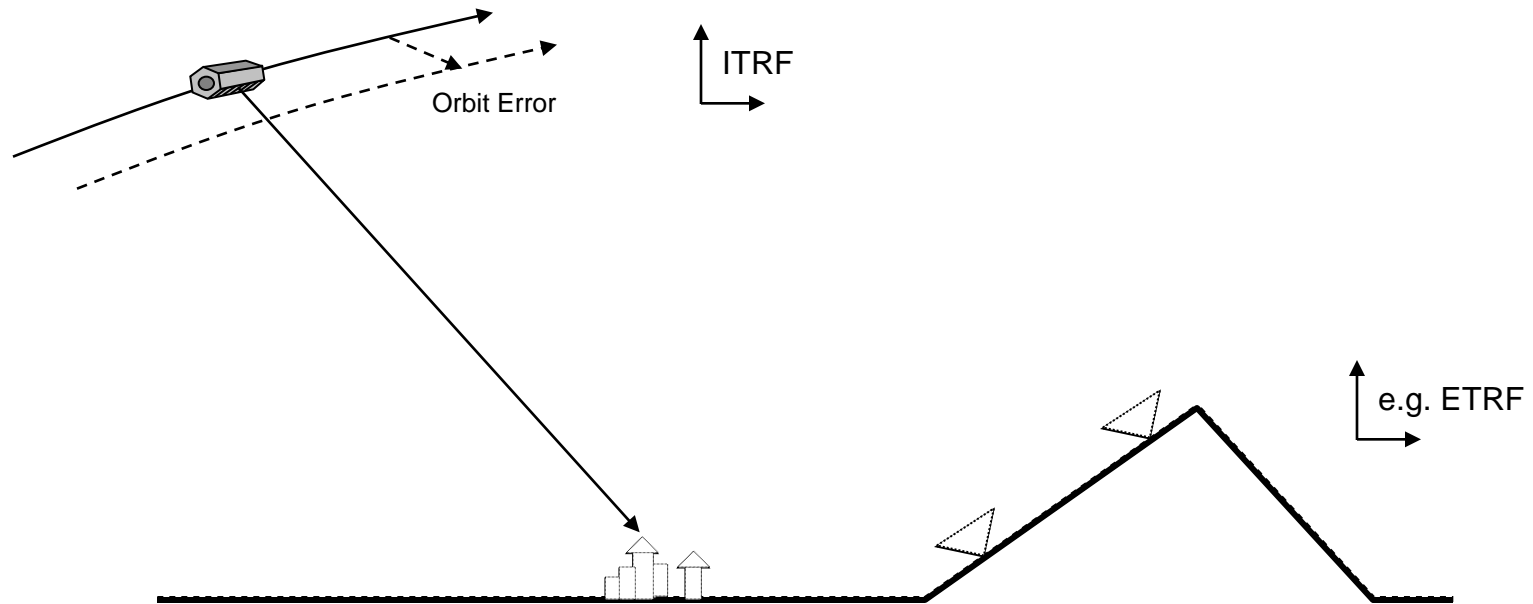
- Offset control point (anyway)
- Ramp control points  
→ loss of information

### ➤ HRIC:

- Offset & ramp control points  
→ loss of information

# Error Source: **Reference Frames and Earth Tides**

**Characteristics:** Shifts up to  $\pm 20$  centimeters



## **Consequences:**

➤ InSAR:

➤ Invisible phase offsets

➤ HRIC:

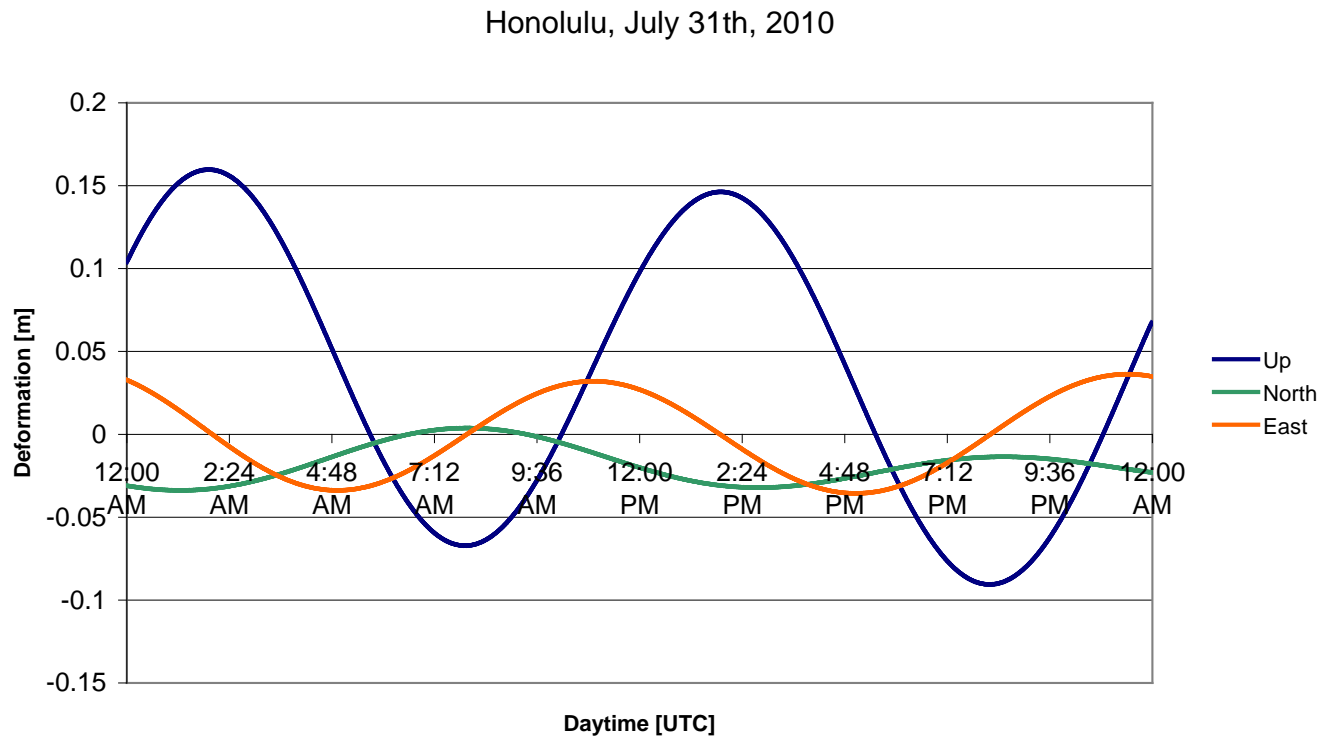
➤ Offsets (visible)

➤ Overall location error (small)

# Error Source: **Earth Tides**

## Compensation:

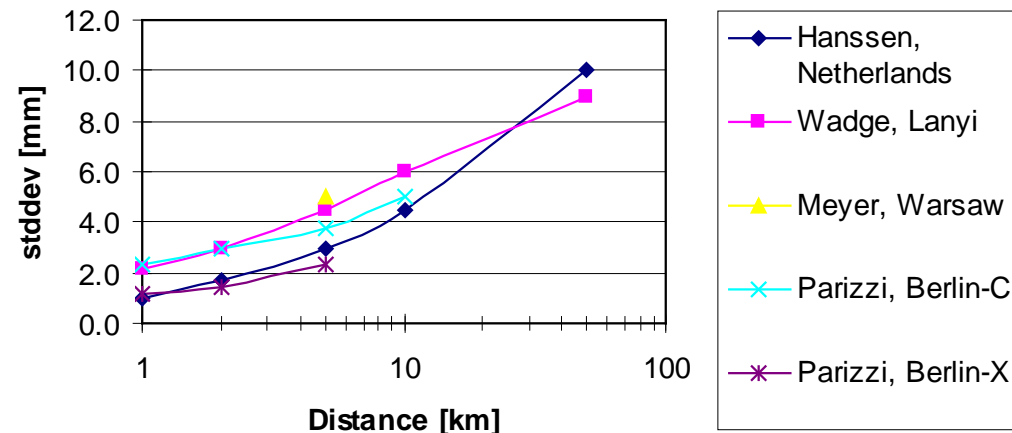
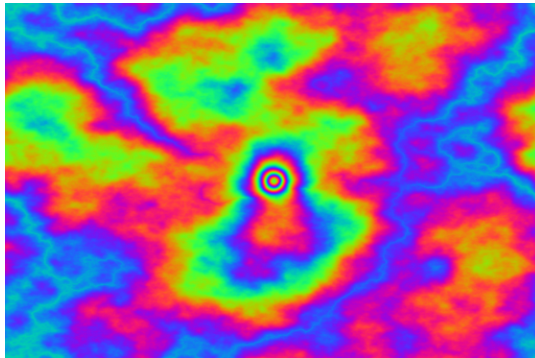
- InSAR: unnecessary because local relative measurement
- HRIC: Use of model



# Error Source: **Atmosphere**

**Characteristics:** Distance dependent turbulences from mm up to  $\pm 15$  cm

**Variograms**



## **Consequences:**

➤ InSAR:

- Phase offsets (invisible)
- Phase patterns → dangerous motion errors

➤ HRIC:

- Offsets (visible)
- Motion patterns (comparatively small)
- Overall location error (small)

# Error Source: **Atmosphere**

## Compensation:

### ➤ InSAR: (Goal: mm/year)

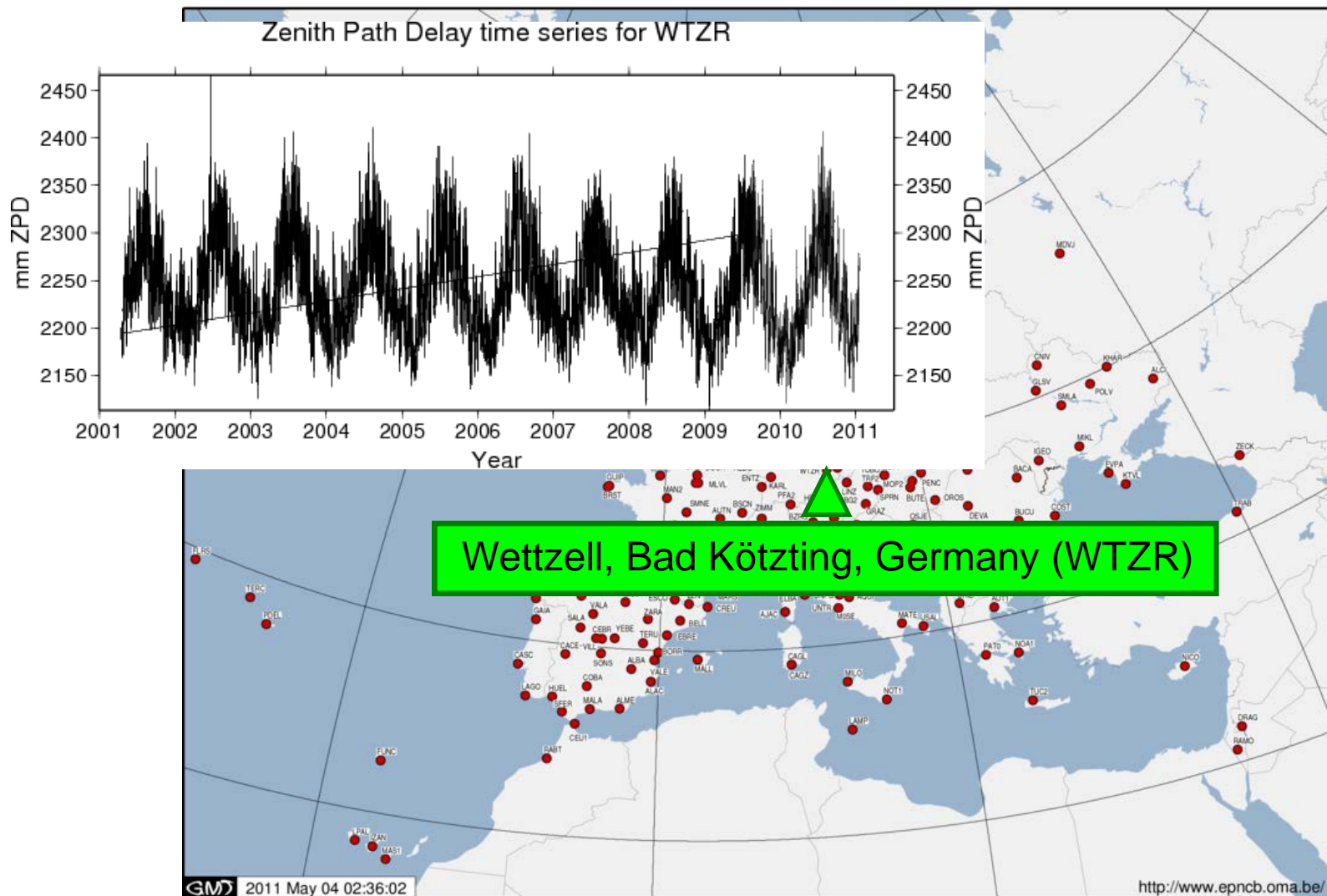
- 1. Temporal averaging  
→ **Persistent Scatterer Interferometry** (state of the art, expensive)
- 2. High resolution weather (H<sub>2</sub>O) modelling (future, not yet operational)

### ➤ HRIC: (Goal: cm/year)

- 1. Large area compensation by **GPS** Trop. Zen. Delay or
- 2. or **low resolution weather model** (new!) or
- 3. high resolution weather model (future, not yet operational)

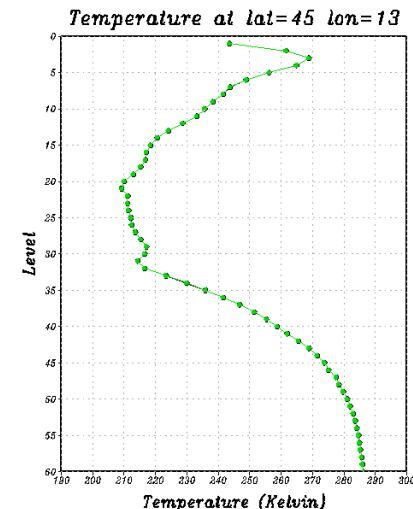
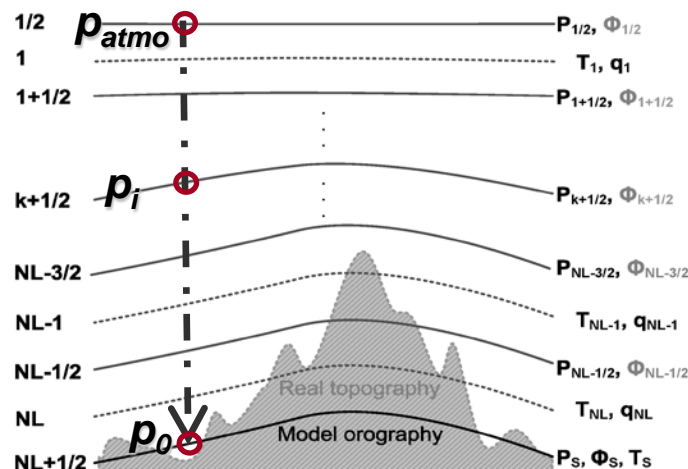
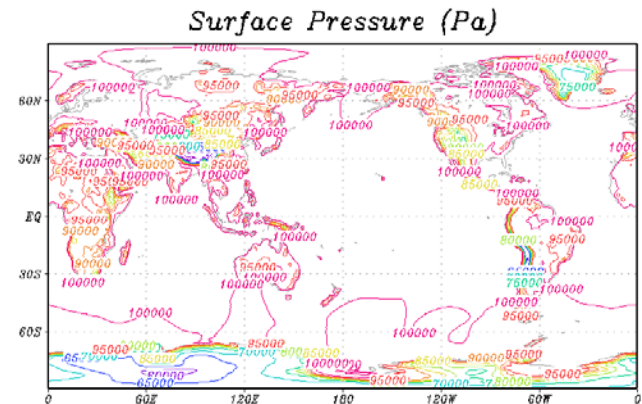


# ZDP from EUREF Permanent GPS Network

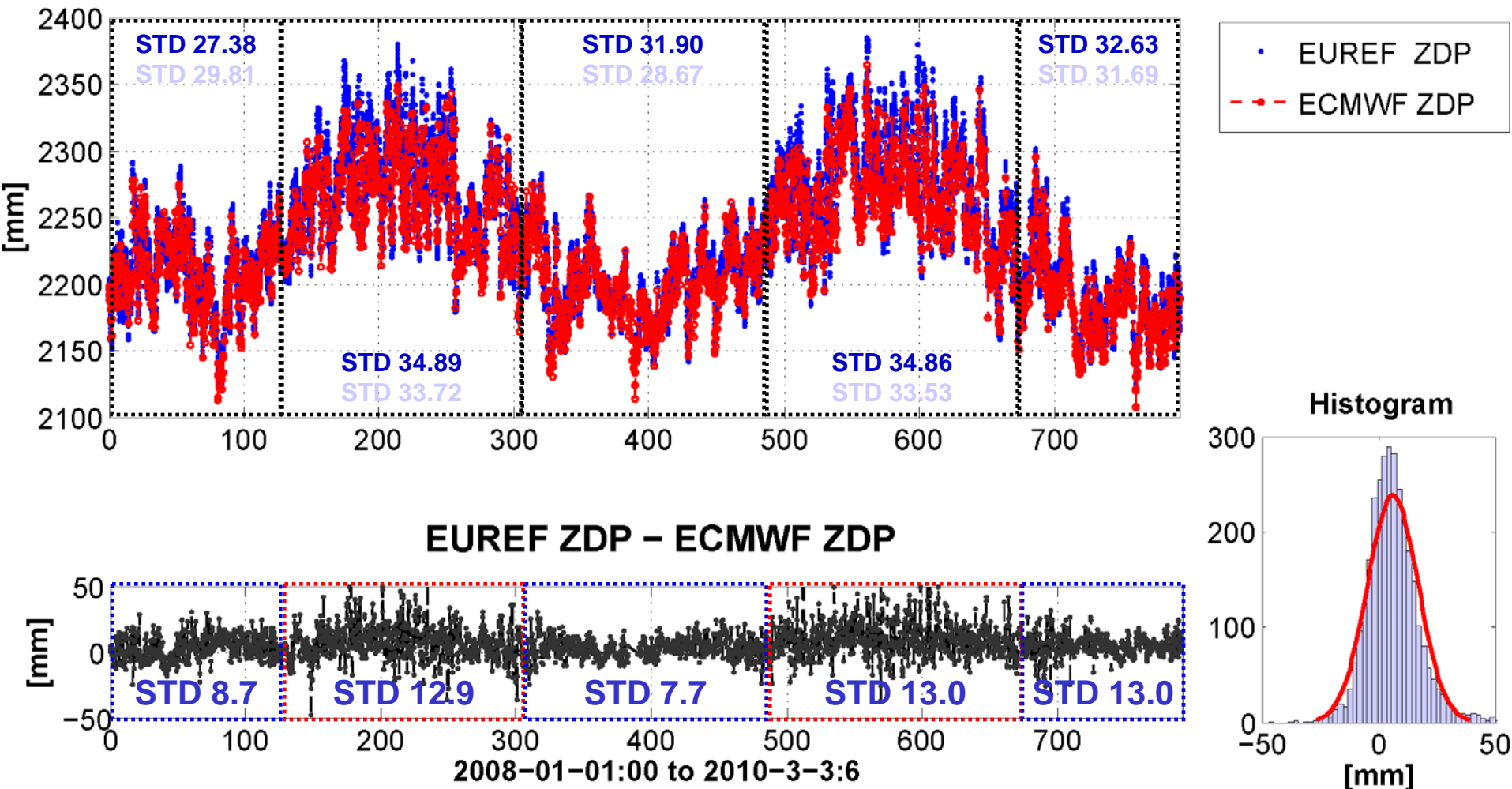


# Path Delay from Numerical Weather Model Data

- ERA-Interim reanalysis from European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)
- Horizontal resolution: full T255 spectral truncation (grid size ~80 km)
- Available on 0h, 06h, 12h and 18h, since 1989 to current – 3 months



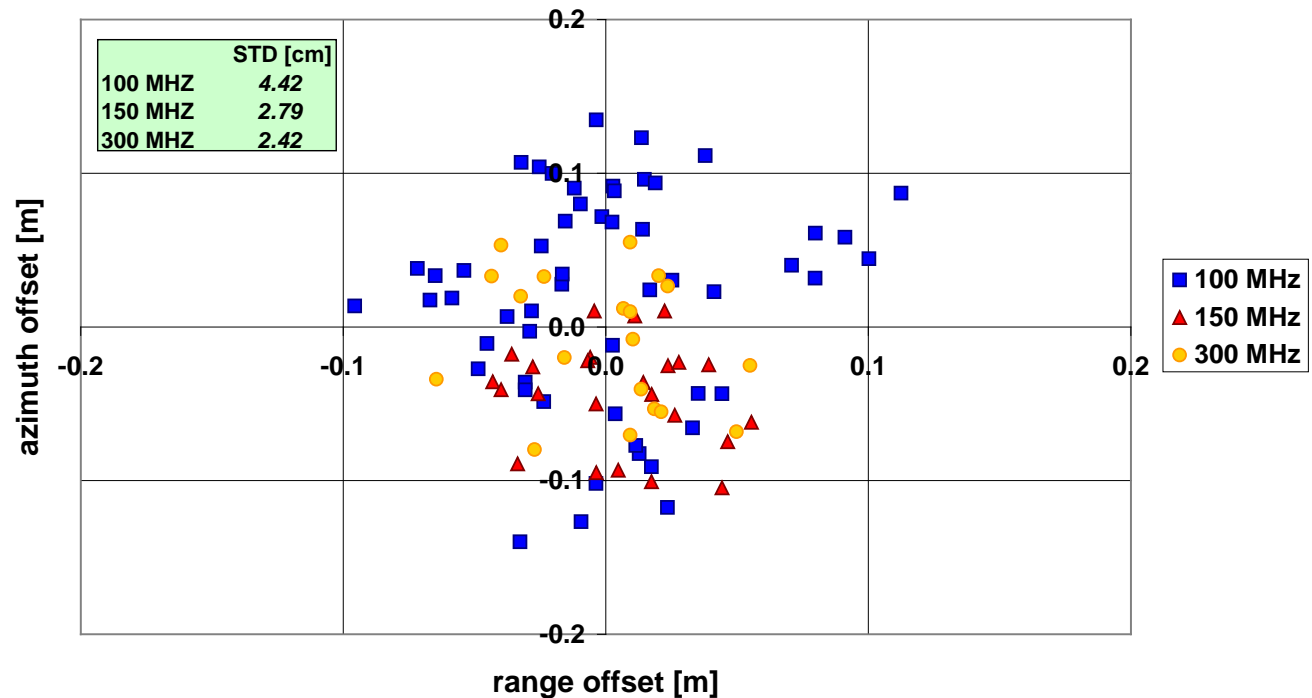
# Comparison GPS ZDP with ECMWF



# Summary: Current Status in HRICT Accuracy

- Monitoring of 6 corner reflectors with known position and 22 TerraSAR-X acquisitions (100 MHz, 150 MHz and 300 MHz)
- Ascending & descending orbits, incidence angle from:  $21^\circ$  to  $58^\circ$
- Compensation of solid Earth tides, tropospheric delay and continental drifts

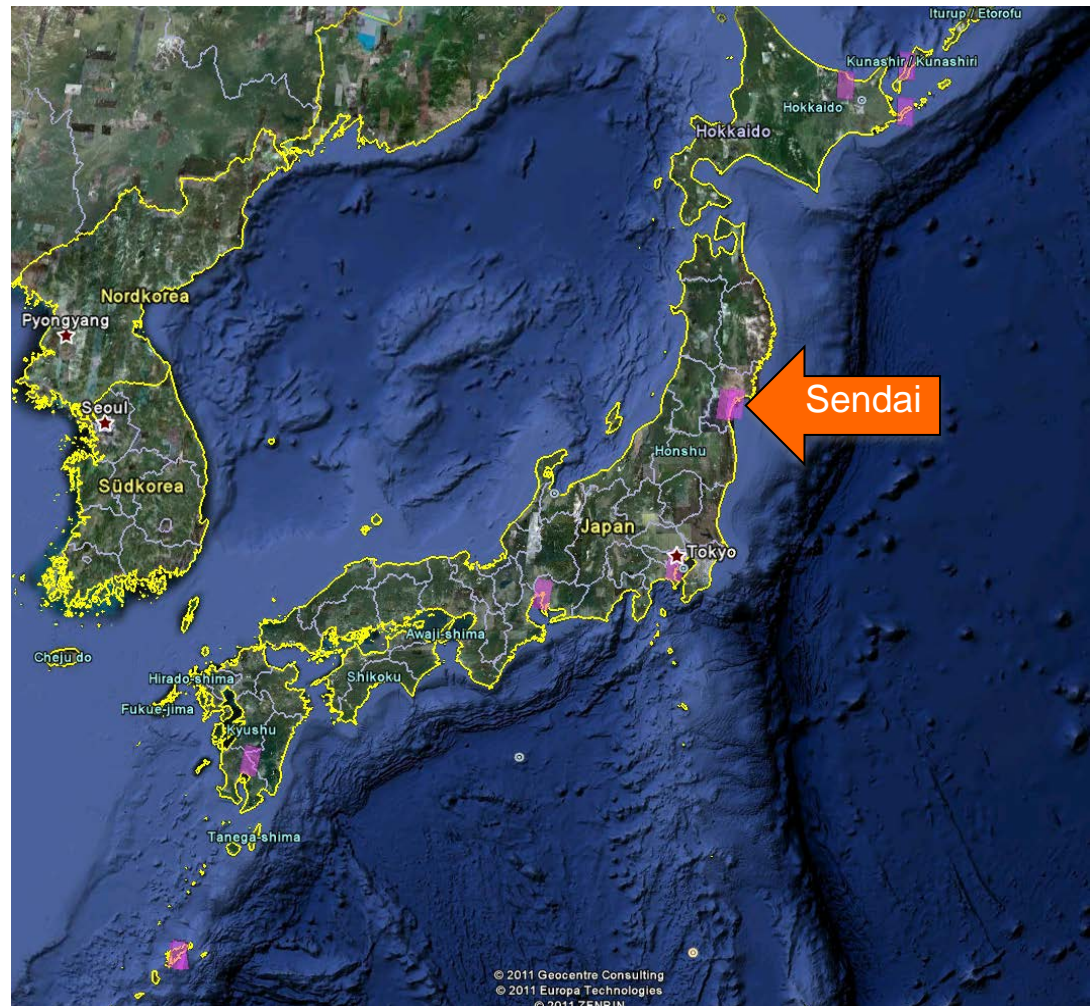
Residual Range Delay with ECMWF SDP Correction



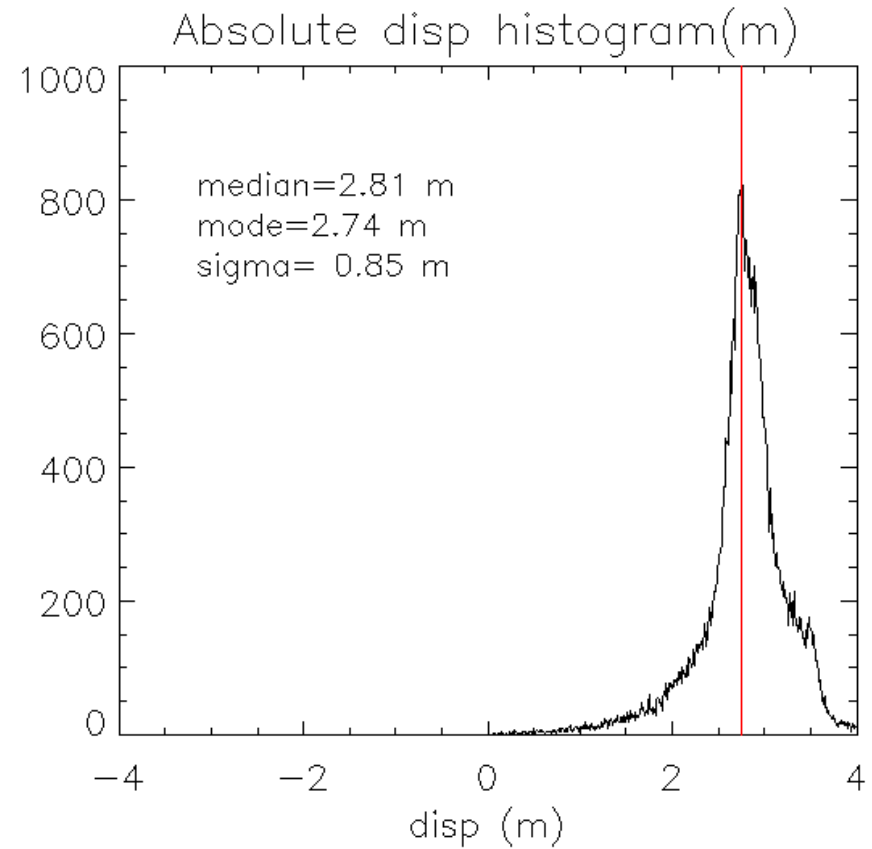
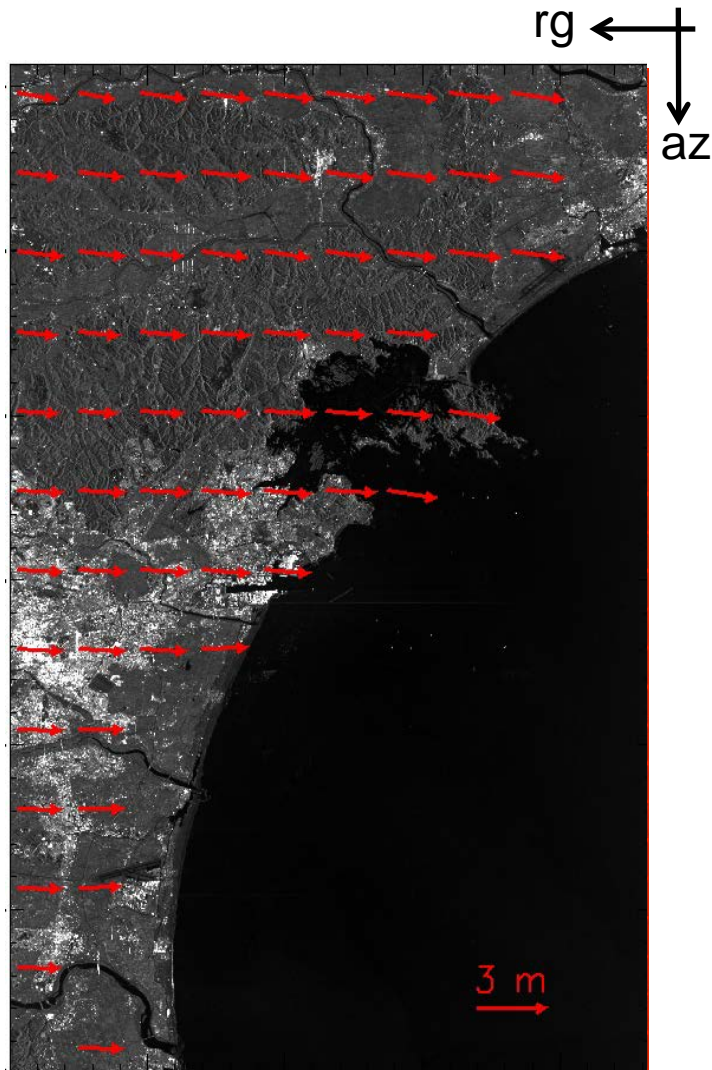


# Example 1: Tohoku Earthquake 2011

- 9 descending co-seismic image pairs spread over the archipelago
- stripmap mode (30 x 50 km)
- single acquisitions  
→ not possible to derive 3D vectors  
→ hor. projection on ground

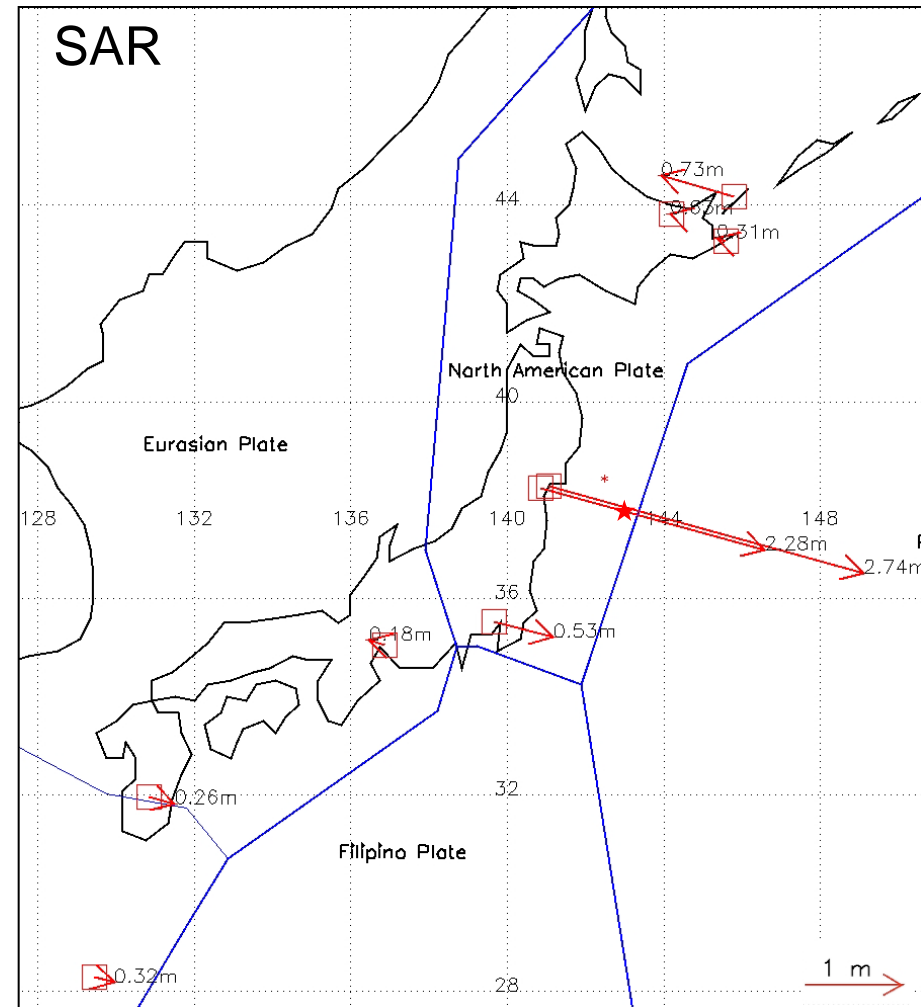
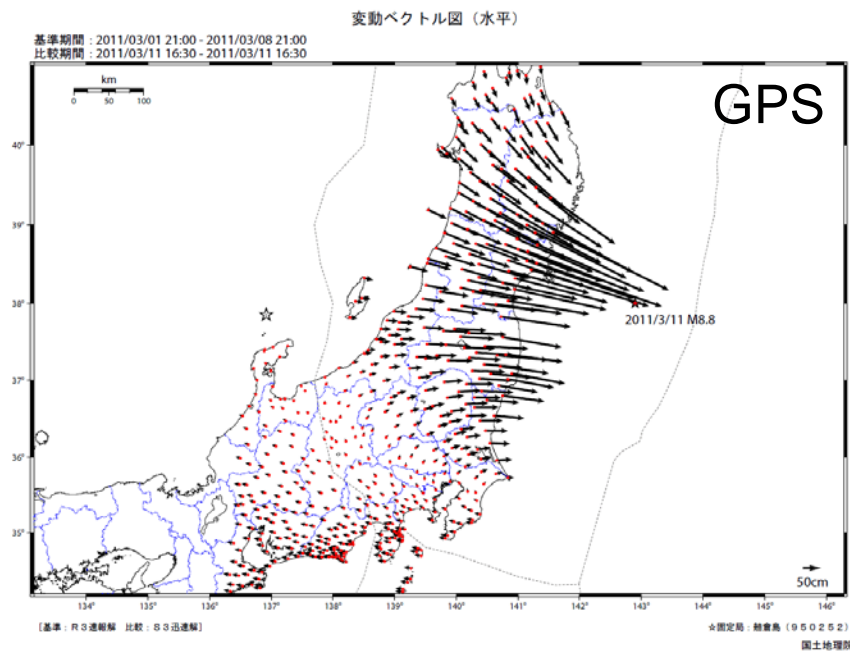


# Co-seismic HRIC Displacement Map at Sendai





# Co-seismic Displacements from GPS and from SAR

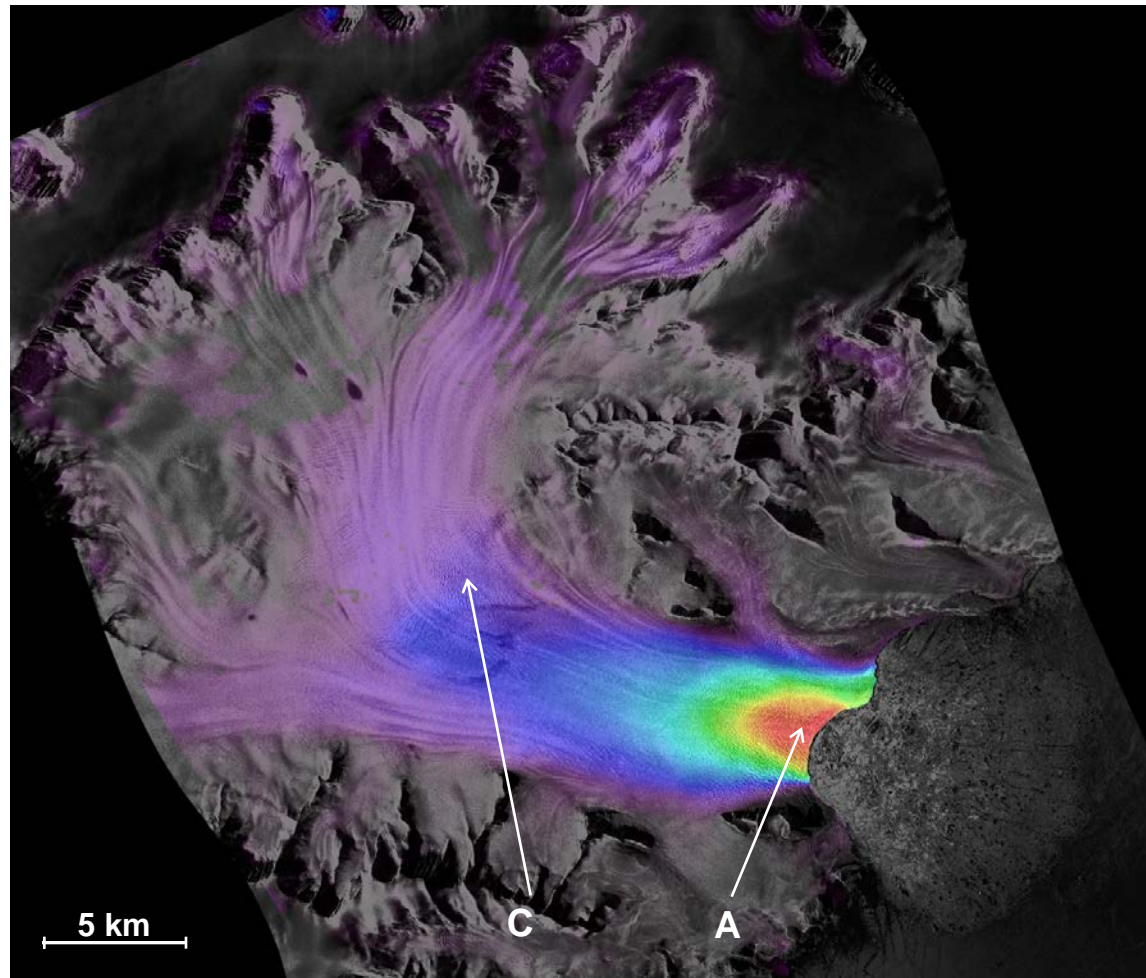


Acknowledgement: Co-seismic displacement from GPS by GEONET. Prof. Hashimoto.  
<http://supersites.earthobservations.org/sendai.php>

# Conclusions

- SAR interferometry is an established method for DEM generation and **relative** subsidence measurements (Persistent Scatterer Interferometry)
  - with ambiguity problems
  - provides only relative measurements
- High resolution image correlation techniques with novel geodetic corrections provide absolute distances with centimeter accuracy and
  - avoid phase ambiguity problems
  - deliver 2D motion vectors
- Goal/potential: reach millimeter accuracy absolute

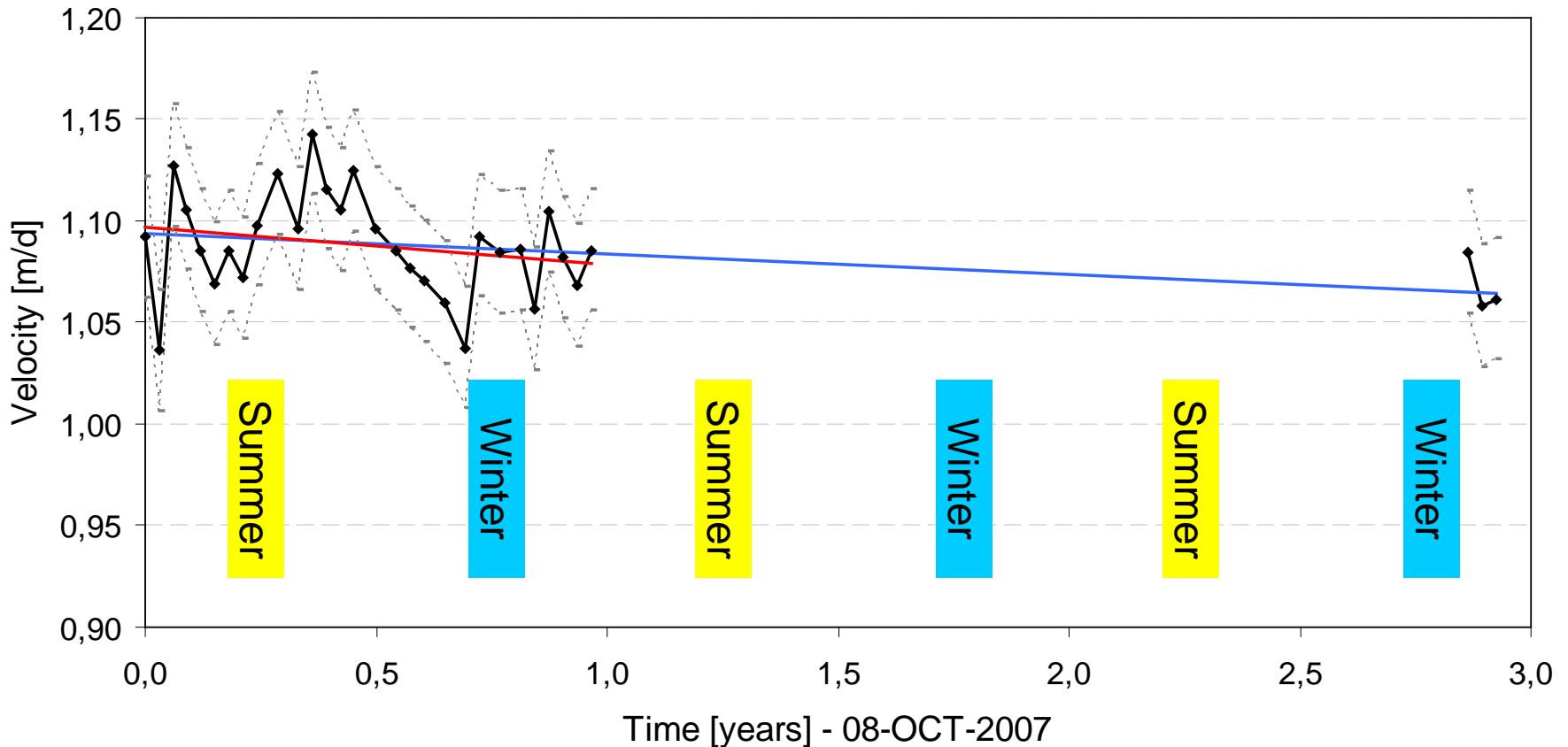
## Example 2: Glacier Velocity Measurements



Average Three-Year Velocity Map  
Drygalski Glacier, Antarctica

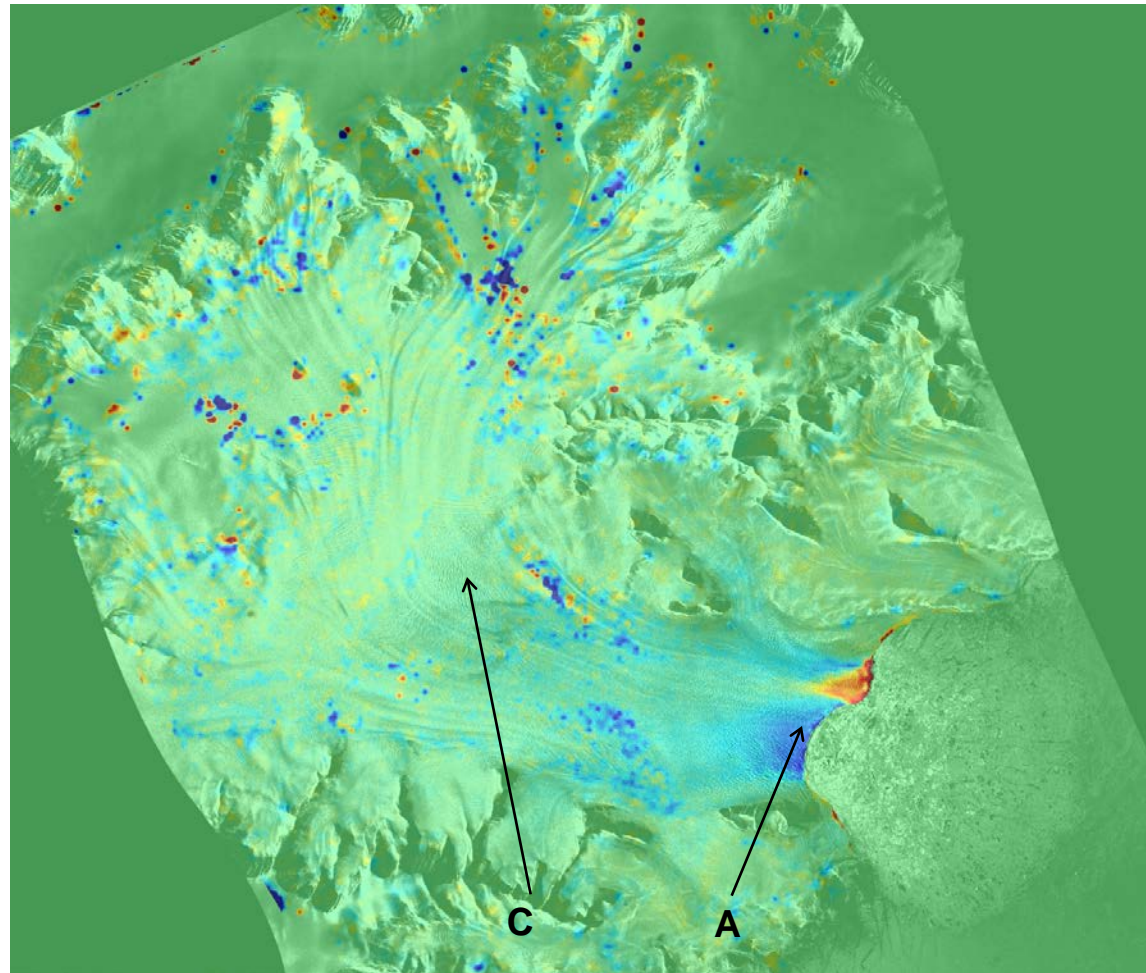


# Temporal Velocity Profile at Point C

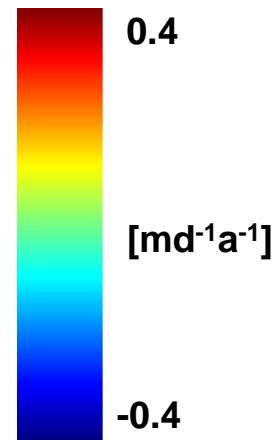


- Measurements confirm error margin (residuals stdev.  $< 2 \text{ cm d}^{-1}$ )
- slight seasonal variations, maybe deceleration

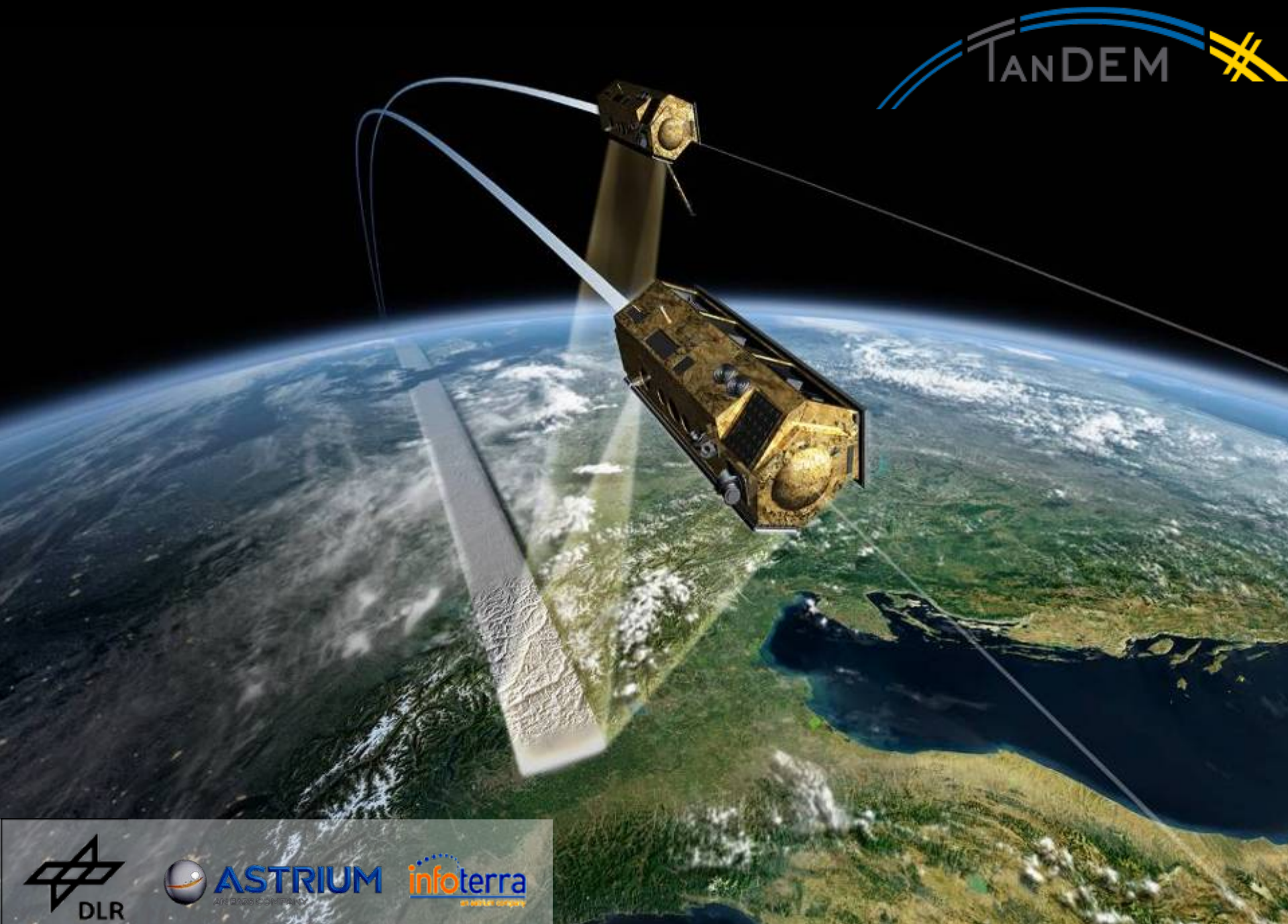
# Glacier Acceleration Measurements



Average Three-Year Acceleration  
Map  
Drygalski Glacier, Antarctica









Alaska

